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10/786,749	02/25/2004	Christopher E. Bales	BEAS-01372US0	2989
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/786,749

Applicant(s)

BALES ET AL.

Examiner

Sherrod Keaton

Art Unit

2175

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 May 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 and 24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 and 24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to the filing on 5-12-08. Claims 1-22 and 24 are pending and have been considered below:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ng et al. ("Ng" US 6285366 B1) in view of Brassard et al. ("Brassard" US 6769095 B1), Microsoft Windows ("Windows Explorer") copyright © 1981-2001 and Dolan et al ("Dolan" 5801702).

Claims 1 and 17: Ng discloses a method, interactive tool (Column 4, Lines 49-56), machine readable medium and computer readable medium (Column 2, Lines 29-35) for interactively manipulating a graphical hierarchy including a plurality nodes comprising:

a.) Selecting a second node in the hierarchy, different from the first node, the first node being a root node of the hierarchy (Column 4, Lines 11-48; Column 10, Lines 56-67) the first node is the root node and lower nodes can be selected which are subtrees in the hierarchy and not the root node;

b.) providing view of hierarchy where the second node is the root node of the viewer (Column 2, Lines 51-58); Ng allows multiple nodes to be displayed, and also allows for different selection of launch nodes which can further display more of a hierarchy tree, launch a website, or display further information about the node.

However Ng does not explicitly disclose:

c.) selection of one of the plurality of nodes can invoke a context sensitive editor for information associated with the node. But Brassard discloses a hierarchically structured control information editor and further discloses a context sensitive editor to create, modify and display hierarchically structured control information (Column 4, Lines 6-34). Therefore it would have obvious to one having ordinary skill at the time of the invention to add context sensitive editing with the hierarchy navigation system of Ng. One would have been motivated to allow the context sensitive editing to add to user-friendliness of the invention and would make the invention efficient allowing the user to have personalized text and visual indicators.

Neither Ng or Brassard disclose wherein the context sensitive editor is different for different selected nodes and wherein when a top portal node is selected, the context

sensitive editor allows for the creation of a new portal, the new portal being associated with a new node in the hierarchy below the top portal node and wherein when a specific portal node below the top portal node is selected, the context sensitive editor allows for inputting field data concerning the specific portal. However Windows explorer discloses different editing features pertaining to the node (Figures 2 and 3) and at the top portal (desktop) an additional node is created below (Figures 4 and 5; they show no node in hierarchy but once a new folder is created and added into the hierarchy as node (10786749). Last the context sensitive editor allows for node (10786749) to input information concerning the portal (Figure 6). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include these features in the context sensitive editor of the modified Ng as taught by Windows explorer. One would have been motivated to provide the features because it improves functionality of the system.

Ng does not explicitly disclose wherein the portals are used to aggregate website content for access using the internet. However Dolan discloses a hierarchical portal that collects website information from the internet that can be accessed (Figures 1 and 2, Column 1, Lines 42-50; Column 3, Lines 10-44). Therefore it would have been obvious to provide a portal for accessing website content in the modified Ng as taught by Dolan. One would have been motivated to combine because Ng discloses utilizing nodes to access websites (Column 7, Lines 39-44), and Dolan explicitly provides the operability and functionality of collecting the website content for access; therefore this would vastly

improve the functionality and operability of Ng's system pertaining to collection of internet data.

Claim 2: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a method as in Claim 1 and further disclose restoring an original view of the hierarchy (Ng: Column 4, Lines 49-56).

Claim 3: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a method as in Claim 1 and further discloses:

a.) selecting a third node in the hierarchy where third node is different from first and second (Ng: Column 4, Lines 11-48; Column 10, Lines 56-67); and

b.) providing a view of the hierarchy where third node is root node (Ng: Column 2, Lines 51-58).

Claim 4: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan discloses a method as in Claim 3 and further disclose restoring a previous view of the hierarchy (Ng: Column 4, Lines 49-56).

Claim 5: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a method as in Claim 1 and further disclose the plurality of nodes representing information pertaining to portal resources (Ng: Column 7, Lines 29-46).

Claim 6: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan discloses a method as in Claim 1 and further discloses the view of the hierarchy being part of a portal administration tool (Ng: Column 6, Lines 45-54).

Claim 7: Ng discloses a method for interactively manipulating a graphical hierarchy including a plurality nodes comprising:

- a.) Selecting a second node in the hierarchy, different from the first node the first node being a root node of the hierarchy (Column 4, Lines 11-48), (Column 10, Lines 56-67) the first node is the root node and lower nodes can be selected which are subtrees in the hierarchy and not the root node;
- b.) providing view of hierarchy where second node is root node of the viewer. (Column 2, Lines 51-58); Ng allows multiple nodes to be displayed, and also allows for different selection of launch nodes which can further display more of a hierarchy tree, launch a website, or display further information about the node.
- d.) the plurality of nodes representing information pertaining to portal resources (Column 7, Lines 29-46);
- e.) the view of the hierarchy being part of a portal administration tool (Column 6, Lines 45-54).

However Ng does not explicitly disclose:

c.) selection of one of the plurality of nodes can invoke a context sensitive editor for information associated with the node view does not show the root node of the hierarchy. But Brassard discloses a hierarchically structured control information editor and further discloses a context sensitive editor to create, modify and display hierarchically structured control information (Column 4, Lines 6-34). Therefore it would have obvious to one having ordinary skill at the time of the invention to add context sensitive editing with the hierarchy navigation system of Ng. One would have been motivated to allow the context sensitive editing to add to user-friendliness of the invention and would make the invention efficient allowing the user to have personalized text and visual indicators.

Neither Ng or Brassard disclose wherein the context sensitive editor is different for different selected nodes and wherein when a top portal node is selected, the context sensitive editor allows for the creation of a new portal, the new portal being associated with a new node in the hierarchy below the top portal node and wherein when a specific portal node below the top portal node is selected, the context sensitive editor allows for inputting field data concerning the specific portal. However Windows explorer discloses different editing features pertaining to the node (Figures 2 and 3) and at the top portal (desktop) an additional node is created below (Figures 4 and 5; they show no node in hierarchy but once a new folder is created and added into the hierarchy as node (10786749). Last the context sensitive editor allows for node (10786749) to input information concerning the portal (Figure 6). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include these features in the context sensitive editor of the modified Ng as taught by Windows explorer. One

would have been motivated to provide the features because it improves functionality of the system.

Ng does not explicitly disclose wherein the portals are used to aggregate website content for access using the internet. However Dolan discloses a hierarchical portal that collects website information from the internet that can be accessed (Figures 1 and 2, Column 1, Lines 42-50; Column 3, Lines 10-44). Therefore it would have been obvious to provide a portal for accessing website content in the modified Ng as taught by Dolan. One would have been motivated to combine because Ng discloses utilizing nodes to access websites (Column 7, Lines 39-44), and Dolan explicitly provides the operability and functionality of collecting the website content for access; therefore this would vastly improve the functionality and operability of Ng's system pertaining to collection of internet data.

Claim 8: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a method as in Claim 7 and further disclose restoring an original view of the hierarchy (Ng: Column 4, Lines 49-56).

Claim 9: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan discloses a method as in Claim 7 and further discloses:

- a.) selecting a third node in the hierarchy where third node is different from first and second (Ng: Column 4, Lines 11-48; Column 10, Lines 56-67); and
- b.) providing a view of the hierarchy where third node is root node (Ng: Column 2, Lines 51-58).

Claim 10: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a method as in Claim 9 and further disclose restoring a previous view of the hierarchy (Ng: Column 4, Lines 49-56).

Claim 11: Ng discloses an interactive tool for interactively manipulating a graphical hierarchy including a plurality nodes comprising:

- a.) **means** for selecting a first node in the hierarchy where the first node is different from a root node of the hierarchy (Column 4, Lines 11-48; Column 10, Lines 56-67) the first node is the root node and lower nodes can be selected which are subtrees in the hierarchy and not the root node;
- b.) a (graphical user interface) GUI for providing a view of the hierarchy where first node is the root node of the viewer (Column 2, Lines 51-58); Ng allows multiple nodes to be displayed, and also allows for different selection of launch nodes which can further display more of a hierarchy tree, launch a website, or display further information about the node.

Ng does not explicitly disclose:

c.) selection of one of the plurality of nodes can invoke a context sensitive editor for information associated with the node. But Brassard discloses a hierarchically structured control information editor and further discloses a context sensitive editor to create, modify and display hierarchically structured control information (Column 4, Lines 6-34). Therefore it would have obvious to one having ordinary skill at the time of the invention to add context sensitive editing with the hierarchy navigation system of Ng. One would have been motivated to allow the context sensitive editing to add to user-friendliness of the invention and would make the invention efficient allowing the user to have personalized text and visual indicators.

Neither Ng or Brassard disclose wherein the context sensitive editor is different for different selected nodes and wherein when a top portal node is selected, the context sensitive editor allows for the creation of a new portal, the new portal being associated with a new node in the hierarchy below the top portal node and wherein when a specific portal node below the top portal node is selected, the context sensitive editor allows for inputting field data concerning the specific portal. However Windows explorer discloses different editing features pertaining to the node (Figures 2 and 3) and at the top portal (desktop) an additional node is created below (Figures 4 and 5; they show no node in hierarchy but once a new folder is created and added into the hierarchy as node (10786749). Last the context sensitive editor allows for node (10786749) to input

information concerning the portal (Figure 6). Therefore it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include these features in the context sensitive editor of the modified Ng as taught by Windows explorer. One would have been motivated to provide the features because it improves functionality of the system.

Ng does not explicitly disclose wherein the portals are used to aggregate website content for access using the internet. However Dolan discloses a hierarchical portal that collects website information from the internet that can be accessed (Figures 1 and 2, Column 1, Lines 42-50; Column 3, Lines 10-44). Therefore it would have been obvious to provide a portal for accessing website content in the modified Ng as taught by Dolan. One would have been motivated to combine because Ng discloses utilizing nodes to access websites (Column 7, Lines 39-44), and Dolan explicitly provides the operability and functionality of collecting the website content for access; therefore this would vastly improve the functionality and operability of Ng's system pertaining to collection of internet data.

Claim 12: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a tool as in Claim 11 and further disclose the GUI restoring an original view of the hierarchy (Ng: Column 4, Lines 49-56).

Claim 13: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a tool as in Claim 11 and further discloses the

- a.) if the second node in the hierarchy is selected, the GUI can provide a view of the hierarchy wherein the second node is the root node (Ng: Column 7, Lines 29-46);
- b.) second node is a child of the first node (Ng: Column 7, Lines 29-46). The launch node can be a child node of any of the available nodes.

Claim 14: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a tool as in Claim 13 and further disclose a GUI restoring a previous view of the hierarchy (Ng: Column 4, Lines 49-56).

Claim 15: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a tool as in Claim 11 and further disclose the plurality of nodes representing information pertaining to portal resources (Ng: Column 7, Lines 29-46).

Claim 16: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a tool as in Claim 11 and further disclose the view of the hierarchy being part of a portal administration tool (Ng: Column 6, Lines 45-54).

Claim 18: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a method as in Claim 17 and further disclose instructions when executed will restore an original view of the hierarchy (Ng: Column 4, Lines 49-56).

Claim 19: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose as method as in Claim 17 comprising instructions causing system to:

- a.) select a second node in the hierarchy where second node is a child node of the first (Ng: Column 4, Lines 11-26);
- b.) provide a view of the hierarchy where second node is the root node (Ng: Column 7, Lines 29-46). Once launch nodes are activated they become the root node in the additional window.

Claim 20: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a method as in Claim 19 and further disclose instructions when executed restoring a previous view of the hierarchy (Ng: Column 4, Lines 49-56).

Claim 21: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a method as in Claim 17 and further disclose the plurality of nodes representing information pertaining to portal resources (Ng: Column 7, Lines 29-46).

Claim 22: Ng, Brassard, Windows Explorer and Dolan disclose a method as in Claim 17 and further disclose the view of the hierarchy being part of a portal administration tool (Ng: Column 6, Lines 45-54).

Claim 24: Claim 24 is similar in rationale to Claim 1 and is therefore rejected with same rationale.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection as necessitated by the amendments.

Conclusion

Applicants amendments necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sherrod Keaton whose telephone number is 571)

270-1697. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Fri. and alternating Fri. off (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Bashore can be reached on 571-272-4088. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-3800.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SLK

8-28-08

/William L. Bashore/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2175